

What is Claimed is:

1. A circuit breaker comprising:  
a housing including an opening;  
separable contacts within said housing;  
an operating mechanism for opening and closing said separable contacts, said operating mechanism including an operating handle having a portion protruding through the opening of said housing;  
means for providing a first output when said separable contacts are open and a second output when said separable contacts are closed;  
a first indicator cooperating with the first output of said means for providing, said first indicator being proximate said operating handle and being illuminated when said separable contacts are open; and  
a second indicator cooperating with the second output of said means for providing, said second indicator being proximate said operating handle and being illuminated when said separable contacts are closed,  
wherein one of said first and second indicators illuminates said operating handle.
2. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein said means for providing includes an auxiliary switch cooperating with said operating mechanism, said auxiliary switch having said first output and said second output.
3. The circuit breaker of Claim 2 wherein said auxiliary switch further has an operating member cooperating with said operating mechanism, a common terminal, a normally closed terminal providing said first output and a normally open terminal providing said second output.
4. The circuit breaker of Claim 3 wherein the common terminal of said auxiliary switch is adapted to receive a common from a power supply external to said circuit breaker.
5. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein said means for providing includes an auxiliary switch cooperating with said operating mechanism, said auxiliary switch and said first and second indicators including terminals which are adapted to be energized from a power supply external to said circuit breaker.

6. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein said first indicator is a first LED; and wherein said second indicator is a second LED.

7. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein said first indicator has a first color; and wherein said second indicator has a second different color.

8. The circuit breaker of Claim 7 wherein said first color is green; and wherein said second color is red.

9. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein the opening of said housing includes a first end and a second end; wherein said operating handle includes a first position and a second position; wherein the portion of said operating handle includes a first side proximate the first end of the opening in the first position and a second side proximate the second end of the opening in the second position; wherein said first indicator is disposed proximate the first end of said opening and proximate the first side of said operating handle in the first position thereof; and wherein said second indicator is disposed proximate the second end of said opening and proximate the second side of said operating handle in the second position thereof.

10. The circuit breaker of Claim 9 wherein said means for providing includes an auxiliary switch having an operating member cooperating with said operating mechanism, a common terminal, a normally closed terminal providing said first output and a normally open terminal providing said second output.

11. The circuit breaker of Claim 10 wherein said first indicator is a first LED including a first cathode and a first anode; and wherein said second indicator is a second LED including a second cathode and a second anode, which is electrically connected to the first anode of said first LED.

12. The circuit breaker of Claim 11 wherein said means for providing further includes a resistor; and wherein the first and second anodes are electrically connected to the resistor, which is adapted to be electrically energized by a voltage of a power source external to said circuit breaker.

13. The circuit breaker of Claim 11 wherein said means for providing further includes a printed circuit board; wherein said first and second LEDs are operatively associated with said printed circuit board; wherein the first cathode of said first LED is electrically connected through said printed circuit board to the normally closed terminal of said auxiliary switch; and wherein the second cathode of

said second LED is electrically connected through said printed circuit board to the normally open terminal of said auxiliary switch.

14. The circuit breaker of Claim 11 wherein the common terminal of said auxiliary switch is adapted to receive a common from a power supply external to said circuit breaker.

15. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein said operating mechanism includes an actuator member within said housing; and wherein said means for providing includes an auxiliary switch having a plunger cooperating with the actuator member of said operating mechanism.

16. The circuit breaker of Claim 15 wherein the actuator member actuates the plunger of said auxiliary switch in the closed position of said separable contacts.

17. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein the opening of said housing is a first opening; wherein said housing is a case including a second opening and a third opening; wherein said first indicator is a first LED, which protrudes through the second opening of said case; and wherein said second indicator is a second LED, which protrudes through the third opening of said case.

18. The circuit breaker of Claim 17 wherein said first opening of said housing includes a first end and a second end; wherein said operating handle includes a first position and a second position; wherein the portion of said operating handle includes a first side proximate the first end of the first opening in the first position and a second side proximate the second end of the first opening in the second position; wherein said first LED is disposed proximate the first end of said first opening and proximate the first side of said operating handle in the first position thereof; and wherein said second LED is disposed proximate the second end of said first opening and proximate the second side of said operating handle in the second position thereof.

19. The circuit breaker of Claim 18 wherein said operating handle is generally transparent and includes a first recess receiving a portion of said first LED in the first position and includes a second recess receiving a portion of said second LED in the second position.

20. The circuit breaker of Claim 1 wherein said operating mechanism includes a trip unit; wherein said separable contacts include an open position, a closed position and a tripped open position; and wherein said means for providing provides said first output for the open and tripped open positions of said separable contacts, and provides said second output for the closed position of said separable contacts.